

Introduced by Senator Scott

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 66721.7 to the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 652, as introduced, Scott. Public postsecondary education: transfer of community college students to the University of California.

Existing law establishes the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California, and the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as 2 of the segments of public postsecondary education in the state.

Existing law, known as the Donahue Higher Education Act, states the intent of the Legislature that the segments of higher education shall pursue the development of transfer agreement programs that specify the curricular requirements that must be met, and the level of achievement that must be attained, by community college students in order for those students to transfer to the campus, undergraduate college, or major of choice.

This bill would add a provision to the Donahue Higher Education Act that requests the President of the University of California to establish a systemwide lower division transfer curriculum on or before June 1, 2006, in order to ensure a clear degree path for community college transfer students who wish to attend the University of California.

The bill would establish a systemwide lower-division transfer curriculum, and would require the California Community Colleges, and request the University of California, to articulate, on or before

January 1, 2007, the courses making up this curriculum so as to facilitate the transfer of community college students to the university.

The bill would provide that, as allowed by enrollment demand and available space, each campus of the University of California would develop a transfer admission agreement with each student who intends to meet the requirements of the transfer process established by the bill, including the declaration of a major and identification of a choice of a destination campus, before earning no more than 45 systemwide semester units, or the equivalent number of quarter units. The bill would require the transfer admission agreement to guarantee admission to the campus and major identified in the agreement and transfer of all 60 semester units, or the equivalent number of quarter units, as creditable to the baccalaureate degree subject to the student's successful completion of those units.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 66721.7 is added to the Education Code,
- 2 to read:
- 3 66721.7. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 4 following:
- 5 (1) The California Master Plan and supporting statutes place
- 6 the utmost importance on the effective transfer of community
- 7 college students to the University of California (UC) and the
- 8 California State University (CSU) as a means of providing access
- 9 to a baccalaureate degree.
- 10 (2) In 2002, UC enrolled nearly 13,000 transfer students from
- 11 community colleges.
- 12 (3) Nearly one-third of all students who earn a baccalaureate
- 13 degree at UC began their college careers at a community college.
- 14 (4) The effective use of state and student time and resources
- 15 would be maximized by students who accrue fewer unrequired
- 16 units in earning their degrees.
- 17 (5) Additional access to community colleges and UC will be
- 18 created by higher graduation rates and fewer nonessential units
- 19 taken.
- 20 (6) The state budget situation makes it urgent to streamline the
- 21 path of the transfer student to the baccalaureate degree.

1 (b) It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature to ensure that
2 community college students who wish to earn the baccalaureate
3 degree at UC are provided with a clear and effective path to this
4 degree.

5 (c) This section shall not be construed to limit in any way the
6 ability of students to gain admission through alternative paths to
7 transfer, such as the Intersegmental General Education Transfer
8 Curriculum (IGETC) or any other means.

9 (d) The President of UC is requested to establish the following
10 systemwide lower division transfer curriculum on or before June
11 1, 2006, in order to ensure a clear degree path for community
12 college transfer students:

13 (1) The President of UC, in consultation with the UC
14 Academic Senate, shall specify for each high-demand
15 baccalaureate program major a systemwide lower-division
16 transfer curriculum composed of at least 45 semester course
17 units, or the equivalent number of quarter course units, that will
18 be common across all UC campuses offering specific major
19 programs.

20 (2) The systemwide lower-division transfer curriculum for each
21 high-demand baccalaureate major degree program shall include
22 all of the following:

23 (A) General education courses.

24 (B) Any other lower-division courses required for graduation.

25 (C) Lower-division components of the student's declared
26 major.

27 (D) Elective units, as appropriate.

28 (3) The systemwide lower-division transfer curriculum shall be
29 specified in sufficient manner and detail so that existing and
30 future community college lower-division courses may be
31 articulated, according to the usual procedures, to the
32 corresponding UC courses or course descriptions.

33 (e) (1) The President of UC is requested to, and the Chancellor
34 of the California Community Colleges shall, in consultation with
35 the Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges,
36 articulate, on or before January 1, 2007, those lower-division,
37 baccalaureate-level courses at each campus of the California
38 Community Colleges that meet for each degree major the
39 systemwide lower-division transfer curriculum requirements
40 specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (d).

(2) Each UC campus is requested to identify, on or before January 1, 2007, any additional, specific, nonelective course requirements beyond the systemwide lower-division transfer curriculum requirements for each degree major, up to a maximum of 60 semester units or the equivalent number of quarter units, for the systemwide and campus-specific requirements combined. UC is requested to make this additional course requirement information available to the community colleges.

(f) As allowed by enrollment demand and available space, each UC campus shall develop a transfer admission agreement with each student who intends to meet the requirements of this section, including the declaration of a major and identification of a choice of a destination campus, before earning no more than 45 systemwide semester units, or the equivalent number of quarter units. The transfer admission agreement shall guarantee admission to the campus and major identified in the agreement and transfer of all 60 semester units, or the equivalent number of quarter units, as creditable to the baccalaureate degree subject to the student's successful completion of those units.